

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
YOUTH LINK BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 11, 2009
6:00-8:00 p.m.

City Hall
Room 1E-120
Bellevue, WA

BOARDMEMBERS PRESENT: Co-Chairs Brenda Gurung and Alice Zhang, Boardmembers Juan Esparza, Rachel Jiang, Farrah Khan, Brian Li, Michelle Mattson-Hamilton, Mike Murphy, Nancy O'Brien-Abel, Deven Tokuno, Nikolai Zapertov

BOARDMEMBERS ABSENT: Boardmembers Faisal Jaswal¹, Lt. Dave Sellers²

STAFF PRESENT: Patrick Alina, Glenn Kost, Helena Stephens

MINUTES TAKER: Michelle Cash

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Gurung at 6:04 p.m.

Timekeeper: Boardmember Tokuno

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by Boardmember Tokuno and second by Boardmember O'Brien-Abel to approve the revised meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Boardmember Tokuno and second by Boardmember Murphy to approve the February 11, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Youth Link Board as presented. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

¹ Absence excused.

² Absence excused.

5. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. BYC Executive Committee

Mr. Alina reported on the following items:

- The BYC met on February 19 and March 4.
- There will be a BYC social event on March 18 from 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- An All-Eastside Youth Council Summit Planning Committee meeting will be held on March 13.
- Overlake School will be conducting a service project with Teen Closet on March 25.
- A service project was recently completed at the North Bellevue Senior Center.
- The BYC is collecting information about Earth Hour, which will be held on March 28 from 8:30-9:30 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to switch off their lights.
- The Facebook unofficial webpage is growing. This site contains information leading up to YL's 20th Anniversary.

Boardmember O'Brien-Abel suggested that Youth Link formally endorse and promote Earth Hour 2009.

Motion by Boardmember Jiang and second by Boardmember Khan to endorse Earth Hour 2009. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).

Ms. Stephens will work with the Environmental Committee and staff to promote the event.

Mr. Alina distributed the most recent edition of *Outspoken*. Boardmembers commended Boardmember Jiang for her hard work on the recent edition of *Outspoken*.

b. Staff Report

See later in the meeting minutes.

c. Welcome new Boardmember

See later in the meeting minutes.

6. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:

a. Re-Investing In Youth presentation discussion

See later in the meeting minutes.

7. STUDY SESSION ITEMS:

a. Parks Levy Project Update

Mr. Kost discussed the recent voter initiative, Proposition #1, which passed with 67% approval. He added that this levy will increase the average Bellevue homeowner taxes by approximately \$71 per year for the next 20 years. In addition, Mr. Kost reviewed some of the specific project funding details, which include:

Property Acquisition

Scope: Acquire land to complement existing Park System, including waterfront access, open space preservation, trail connectivity, and neighborhood park opportunities.
Available Funds: \$20 Million

Synthetic Sports fields

Scope: Convert sports fields at Newport Hills and Wilburton Hills to synthetic surface.
Available Funds: \$3 Million

Trail Development

Scope: Expand trail system throughout Bellevue, with a specific focus on the Coal Creek Natural Area.
Available Funds: \$2 Million

Lewis Creek Park Picnic Area

Scope: Complete picnic area and trail connections.
Available Funds: \$4 Million

Bellevue Youth Theatre

Scope: Construct new theatre facilities near Crossroads Community Center.
Available Funds: \$6 Million

Bellevue Botanical Gardens

Scope: Ravine Garden and Wetland-Sun Terraced Garden development, Visitor Center and Parking Lot expansion, and maintenance relocation as funding allows.
Available Funds: \$6 Million

Neighborhood Park Development

Scope: Develop neighborhood parks along Lake Sammamish and the Bridle Trails neighborhood.
Available Funds: \$5 Million

Surrey Downs Park Development

Scope: Complete phase 1 park development per Master Plan.
Available Funds: \$7 Million
Issues: District Court relocation, Light Rail, Boys & Girls Club Proposal

Eastgate Area Park Development

Scope: Complete phase 1 park development per Master Plan.

Available Funds: \$10 Million

Downtown Park

Scope: Complete the circle and additional park improvements as funding allows.

Available Funds: \$10 Million

Mr. Kost showed a Preliminary Project Schedule graph that helped explain the anticipated time schedule for the first five years of the levy projects.

There was a general discussion regarding the ongoing Light Rail planning process. In addition, Boardmember O'Brien-Abel commended the City for incorporating doggy waste bags throughout the Parks system and encouraged this service for future sites/projects.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Continued from above.

b. Staff Report

Ms. Stephens reported on the following items:

- There are many upcoming TRACKS programs. A brochure was distributed, which listed the upcoming schedule.
- The March 2009 calendar was distributed.
- There will be a "Police and Youth: Building bridges of understanding" presentation by Eastside Conversations on Race and Culture. This event will be held on April 22 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. All youth members are encouraged to attend. In addition, the City is partnering with the Bellevue School District to conduct a workshop for African American males in middle school to help break down barriers between the police, youth and people of color.
- The Youth Link 2009 Gumbo Night will be held on April 22 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. All Boardmembers are encouraged to attend the YL Gumbo Night event.
- There will be a 24-Hour Relay Challenge Steering Committee meeting on March 18 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The Relay will be held on June 27 and 28 in Downtown Park.

Ms. Stephens also showed Boardmembers the Teen Link pamphlet, which is a resource of Where to Turn for Teens for youth who are seeking personal empowerment with the support of others.

c. Welcome new Boardmember

Ms. Stephens welcomed new Boardmember Michelle Mattson-Hamilton to the YL Board. Boardmember Mattson-Hamilton is the first adult Boardmember that also served as a youth Boardmember.

9. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:

Continued from above.

b. Re-Investing in Youth presentation discussion

Co-Chair Gurung summarized the recent presentation from Ms. Boales regarding the Re-Investing in Youth program. During last month's presentation, Ms. Boales referenced the City of Bellevue's involvement in a partnership with Bellevue Public Schools and United Way that focuses on dropout reduction in one of Bellevue's school's. However, Ms. Boales did not know which school the program was referencing. When Ms. Stephens clarified this information with Mr. Street, he recalled the SUCCESS program, which was part of the YES program. In addition, Ms. Stephens recalled the Projector Poder program, which YL helped support.

Boardmember Murphy expressed concerns with the statistics provided in the funding application, in particular with the delay in graduation figures and statistics. He suggested that Bellevue might become more engaged in the program if more of Bellevue's strengths and weaknesses were addressed. Other Boardmembers concurred with Boardmember Murphy's suggestion.

Motion by Boardmember Murphy and second by Boardmember Tokuno to approve the Re-Investing in Youth funding request with the following criteria:

- **Request that RIY take advantage of Bellevue's success with dropout rates.**
- **RIY should engage in discussions with the Bellevue School District administrators to identify how Bellevue's success came about.**
- **Provide additional data pertaining to Bellevue youth.**

At the question, motion carried (10-0 with 1 abstention).

b. Bellevue Youth Court Update

Ms. Stephens summarized the recent Youth Court training session. When Ms. Stephens solicited volunteers for the Youth Court Action Team, Co-Chair Zhang expressed interest.

As a token of appreciation of Co-Chair Zhang's efforts with Youth Court, Ms. Stephens presented her with a Youth Court sweatshirt.

Youth Court sessions are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

c. Environmental Committee Update

The Environmental Committee members discussed the April Earth Week plans for a plastic bag exchange. Committee members would like to exchange a reusable bag for 10 plastic bags. Sample reusable bags were shown to Boardmembers. Boardmember Tokuno offered to speak with a family member regarding possible bag sponsorship opportunities. In addition, Ms.

Stephens suggested using City reusable bags. Environmental Committee members would like to locate reusable bags that appeal to the youth community.

There will also be a bottle cap collection bin available during Earth Week.

d. Public Outreach & Marketing Update

The Public Outreach Committee discussed the proposed logos and likes/dislikes for each of the logos. Overall, Boardmembers favored logos 2 and 3 with the following suggestions:

#2

Prefer a cleaner, more modern font.

Don't like the "Y."

Change Bellevue City to City of Bellevue

#3

Incorporate a circle concept.

Prefer a different font.

Change Bellevue City to City of Bellevue

e. Evaluation Committee Update

Ms. Stephens requested a meeting with the Evaluation Committee.

10. OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:

Boardmember Murphy reported that five candidates have been selected for Superintendent interviews. When the finalist is chosen, Boardmember Murphy suggested that the candidate be involved with the City's youth activities.

Co-Chair Gurung called attention to the recent article in the *Bellevue Reporter* regarding Rick Teegarden and the Kids Care Coat Drive.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Boardmember Tokuno and second by Boardmember Esparza to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (11-0).